CLAIMS

1. A surface-modified powder comprising a pharmacologically active ingredient and having a flowability enabling direct tabletting, said powder being surface-modified by subjecting a powder for surface modification comprising a pharmacologically active ingredient or a pharmacologically active ingredient and a diluent to surface modification with a surface modifying base material.

2. The surface-modified powder comprising a pharmacologically active ingredient according to claim 1, wherein the surface modifying base material is selected from members capable of physically adhering to the surface of the powder for surface modification and contributing to improving the flowability of the powder.

3. The surface-modified powder comprising a pharmacologically active ingredient according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the surface modifying base material is at least one member selected from light silicic anhydride, talc, stearic acid, magnesium stearate, calcium stearate, starch, titanium oxide, citric acid, malic acid, adipic acid, hydrous silicon dioxide and calcium carbonate.

4. The surface-modified powder comprising a pharmacologically active ingredient according to any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein the surface modifying base material is at least one member selected from

light silicic anhydride, talc, stearic acid, magnesium stearate and calcium stearate.

5. The surface-modified powder comprising a pharmacologically active ingredient according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein light silicic anhydride is used as the surface modifying base material.

6. The surface-modified powder comprising a pharmacologically active ingredient according to claim 5, which contains 0.1 to 5 wt% of light silicic anhydride.

7. The surface-modified powder comprising a pharmacologically active ingredient according to any one of claims 1 to 6, wherein the pharmacologically active ingredient added with a diluent selected from lactose, erythritol, trehalose, anhydrous calcium hydrogenphosphate and crystalline cellulose has been surface-modified with the surface modifying base material.

8. The surface-modified powder comprising a pharmacologically active ingredient according to any one of claims 1 to 7, wherein the flowability is at most 42° in terms of an angle of repose.

9. The surface-modified powder comprising a pharmacologically active ingredient according to any one of claims 1 to 8, which is subjected to dry coating after adding at least one member selected from finely divided titanium oxide, talc, erythritol and trehalose to the powder for surface modification before or after

the surface modification.

10. A method of producing the surface-modified powder comprising a pharmacologically active ingredient and having a flowability enabling direct tabletting according to any one of claims 1 through 9, which comprises blending, for surface modification, a powder for surface modification comprising a pharmacologically active ingredient and optionally further containing a diluent with a surface modifying base material.

11. A fast disintegrating tablet comprising the pharmacologically active ingredient-comprising surface-modified powder according to any one of claims 1 through 9, having blended with a disintegrant and directly tableted.

12. The fast disintegrating tablet according to claim 11, wherein partially alphanized starch or crospovidone is used as the disintegrant.

13. The fast disintegrating tablet according to claim 12, which contains 10 to 80 wt% of partially alphanized starch or crospovidone.

14. A method of producing the fast disintegrating tablet according to any one of claims 11 through 13, which comprises blending, for surface modification, a powder for surface modification comprising a pharmacologically active ingredient and optionally further containing a diluent with a surface modifying base material, adding a disintegrant to the blend and then subjecting the mixture to direct tabletting.

15. Use of the surface-modified powder comprising a pharmacologically active ingredient for producing a tablet by directly tabletting the surface-modified powder comprising a pharmacologically active ingredient according to any one of claims 1 through 9, optionally after blending the powder with an additive.

16. Use according to claim 15 for producing a fast disintegrating tablet.

17. A method of producing a tablet preparation, which comprises subjecting the surface-modified powder comprising a pharmacologically active ingredient according to any one of claims 1 through 9 to direct tabletting, optionally after blending the powder with an additive.

18. The method according to claim 17, wherein the surface-modified powder comprising a pharmacologically active ingredient is blended with a disintegrant to produced the fast disintegrating tablet.